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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02

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INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124748

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: ENRG, TECH, OECD, BE

SUBJECT: ECG AD HOC R&D GROUP -- REPORT OF JUNE 6 MEETING

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 1563; (B) BRUSSELS 1778;
(C) STATE 23488; (D) BRUSSELS 2522;
(E) STATE 103408

1. FINAL MEETING ECG AD HOC R&D GROUP HELD JUNE 6 IN BONN. MEETING CHAIRED BY SCHMIDT-KUESTER (FRG) AND ATTENDED BY 27 REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL ECG MEMBERS (EXCEPT LUXEMBOURG) AS WELL AS OECD AND OECD/NEA.

2. GROUP AGREED ON ITS FINAL REPORT WHICH TO BE SUBMITTED TO ECG AT ITS JUNE 17, 18 MEETING. CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED IN VIEW HIS UNAVAILABILITY FOR JUNE 17 MEETING REPORT TO BE FORMALLY PRESENTED TO ECG BY MANFRED POPP OF FRG MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. FRG WILL RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF REPORT NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL JULY 5-6 ECG MEETING.

3. GROUP'S REPORT RECOMMENDS MULTILATERAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IN FOLLOWING 10 ENERGY R&D AREAS: COAL TECHNOLOGY (U.K.), SOLAR (JAPAN), RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (OECD/NEA), FUSION (U.S.), HYDROGEN PRODUCTION FROM WATER (FRG), NUCLEAR REACTOR SAFETY (U.S.),

USE OF WASTE HEAT (FRG), MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE UTILIZATION (NETHERLANDS), ENERGY CONSERVATION (U.S.) AND SYSTEMS ANALYSIS (OECD). INITIAL SUGGESTIONS FOR PROPOSALS IN THESE AREAS WERE DEVELOPED BY LEAD COUNTRIES AS INDICATED AND FURTHER DETAILED AT EXPERTS MEETINGS HELD MID-MAY. COOPERATION SUGGESTED RANGES FROM JOINT USE BY MEANS OF FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF EXISTING LIGHT WATER REACTOR TESTING FACILITIES IN U.S. AND SWEDEN TO COOPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY DATA BASES AND SYSTEM MODELLING TECHNIQUES. AREAS RECOMMENDED FOR INCREASED COOPERATION WERE SELECTED UTILIZING CRITERIA WHICH INCLUDE: (A) RECOGNITION THAT COOPERATION TO BE IN FIELDS WHERE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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DEVELOPMENT IS LARGELY GOVERNMENTAL, (B) NEED FOR RECIPROCITY BETWEEN PARTIES IN TERMS OF BENEFITS, OBLIGATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS, (C) MINIMAL NEED TO CREATE SIGNIFICANT NEW ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY, AND (D) PROGRAMS SHOULD BE IN AREAS WHERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION NOT YET FULLY EXPLOITED. REPORT STATES THAT IT NOT FEASIBLE TO INDICATE PRIORITIES BETWEEN 10 RECOMMENDED AREAS AND NOTES VARYING CHARACTER,

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS AND TIMESCALES FOR APPLICATION OF THE 10 AREAS.

4. FOLLOWING FOUR POSSIBLE FOLLOW-ON MECHANISMS ARE IDENTIFIED:

(A) LEAD COUNTRIES CONTINUE ACT AS FOCAL POINTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF COOPERATION;

(B) EXISTING INSTITUTION(S) TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITIES IN ORGANIZING COOPERATIVE VENTURES;

(C) EXISTING INSTITUTION (S) (WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO OECD) BE RESTRUCTURED TO DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH ENERGY PROBLEMS, INCLUDING R&D;

(D) ESTABLISHMENT HIGH LEVEL STEERING GROUP TO MONITOR PROGRESS OF COOPERATIVE R&D INITIATIVES.

REPORT INDICATES OPTIONS ARE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE AND DOES NOT ENDORSE ANY ONE PARTICULAR OPTION.

5. REPORT RECOMMENDS ECG (A) ENDORSE REPORT AND SUGGESTED R&D PROPOSALS MERITING FURTHER EXAMINATION, AND (B) DECIDE ON APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-ON MECHANISMS TAKING

INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR EXPEDITIOUS ACTION AND COORDINATED OVERALL APPROACH IN THE ENERGY AREA.

6. COMMENT (INCLUDES PARAS. 6 THRU 8). AT OPENING OF MEETING U.S. DELEGATION (BEING AWARE OF SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS TO WATER DOWN REPORT) NOTED NEED FOR BALANCED REPORT AND U.S. PREFERENCE FOR ONE SOMEWHAT STRONGER
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THAN DRAFT UNDER DISCUSSION. U.K. AND JAPAN FEARED LEAD COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITIES MIGHT IMPOSE UNDUE BURDEN. THIS AMELIORATED BY STATEMENT IN REPORT THAT LEAD COUNTRY CAN CHANGE AT LATER DATE AND BY U.S. SUGGESTION OF POSSIBLY DESIGNATING CO-LEADERS. OECD/NEA REPRESENTATIVE MADE STRONG PITCH THAT OECD MOST SUITABLE ORGANIZATION TO ASSUME FOLLOW-ON RESPONSIBILITIES AND WHICH WOULD HAVE BEST ASSURANCE MAINTAINING PRESENT MOMENTUM. HE NOTED A LA CARTE FEATURE OF OECD APPROACH AND THAT FORMAL OECD POSITION WOULD NEED BE DETERMINED BY ITS MEMBER STATES.

7. NORWEGIANS EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE FOR MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN FOLLOW-ON MECHANISMS. NORWEGIAN DEL PRIVATELY ADVISED U.S. DELEGATION THAT NEITHER NORWAY

NOR DENMARK FAVORED USE OF OECD AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED FOR FOLLOW-ON. ALSO NORWEGIAN DEL UNDER INSTRUCTION TO OPPOSE ANY NEW INSTITUTION FOR FOLLOW-ON MECHANISMS. BELGIANS SUGGESTED ROLE OF OECD COMMITTEE FOR S&T POLICY BE EXPANDED TO TAKE ON NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. THIS DID NOT RECEIVE SUPPORT. IT CLEAR THAT NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING DENMARK, NORWAY AND FRG RECOGNIZE OECD NEEDS BE RESTRUCTURED IF IT TO TAKE ON NECESSARY OVERALL R&D FOLLOW-ON RESPONSIBILITIES. BELGIANS ALSO CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE NEED SMALLER NATIONS BE ABLE BENEFIT FROM COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION OF R&D RESULTS.

8. SCHMIDT-KUESTER ADVISED U.S. DEL THAT FRG POSITION IN ECG WILL BE TO SUPPORT MAJOR RESTRUCTURING OF OECD TO CARRY-OUT FOLLOW-ON ENERGY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING R&D. SISCO

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